

What is claimed is:

1. An intermetallic composition comprising:
a monolithic solid mass including iron, nickel, manganese and aluminum as a
5 spinodal decomposition product formed in at least two distinct structural phases.
2. The intermetallic composition of claim 1, further comprising a coating.
3. The intermetallic composition of claim 2, wherein the coating is selected from
10 the group consisting of polymeric coatings, silicon-based coatings, metal oxide coatings,
gold, platinum, silver, carbon-based coatings, adhesives, and combinations thereof.
4. The intermetallic composition of claim 1, wherein the solid possesses
magnetic characteristics.
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5. An intermetallic composition comprising a mixture having a macroscopic
content of 16-70% iron, 19-35% nickel, 18-33% manganese and 18-33% aluminum, wherein
the composition is described in terms of atomic percentages.
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6. The intermetallic composition of claim 5, wherein the macroscopic content
varies with localized nanostructure.
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7. The intermetallic composition of claim 5, wherein the composition comprises
30% iron, 20% nickel, 25% manganese and 25% aluminum.
8. The intermetallic composition of claim 1, wherein the average intermetallic
content is according to a formula



wherein M is selected from the group consisting of vanadium, chromium, cobalt,
30 molybdenum, ruthenium and combinations thereof,
a ranges from 16 to 70;
b ranges from 19 to 35

c ranges from 18 to 33;
d ranges from 18 to 33, and
e ranges from 0 to 5.

5 9. The intermetallic composition of claim 8, wherein the intermetallic composition possesses magnetic characteristics.

10 10. The intermetallic composition of claim 1, wherein the average intermetallic content is according to a formula:

10 $Fe_xNi_{50-x}Mn_yAl_{50-y}$,
wherein X ranges from 15 to 30, and
Y ranges from 20 to 30.

15 11. The intermetallic composition of claim 10, wherein the intermetallic composition possesses magnetic characteristics.

12. A method of producing an intermetallic composition, the method comprising the steps of:

20 heating a mixture of metals comprising 16-70% iron, 19-35% nickel, 18-33% manganese and 18-33% aluminum to create a homogenous solution;
cooling the homogenous solution to obtain a homogeneous solid;
rapidly quenching the solid to room temperature;
reheating the solid to within a spinodal temperature region; and
holding the spinodal temperature for a period of time.